

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Support for the added limitations to claim 1 is in the subject matter of original claim 5, and the description of page 25. Therefore, no new matter was added to the amended claim 1.

In addition, Claims 2, 11 and 13 were amended to remove the typographical errors indicated by the Examiner.

Rejection of claims over the art

Rejections under 102(b) and 102(e)

The present claims are rejected as follows:

(1) Claims 1, 4, 11, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomiuchi et al. (GB 2357180),

(2) Claims 1, 4, 11, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kawaguchi et al. (US 2004/0051781),

(3) Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Bellmann et al. (US 2003/0068525)

(4) Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Kitano et al. (US 2004/0109955).

Rejections under 103(a)

Claims 3, 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitano et al. (US 2004/0109955).

By introducing the subject matter of Claim 5 into the main Claim 1, issues related to the art rejections are reduced or mooted (where not applied to Claim 5). In addition, applicants note the following:

The most distinctive features of the multi-branched structure compound as now required by claim 1 are:

- (1) the multi-branched structure encapsulates a phosphorescent compound;
- (2) the multi-branched structure contains a specific core linkage group selected from C-1 to C-21.

It was demonstrated that when organic electroluminescent element contains the multi-branched structure compound having the above-described features, it exhibited a very high external quantum yield and a very long emission life compared to the organic electroluminescent element without using the multi-branched structure compound having the above-described features.

This showing is evidenced by the results reported in the specification, Tables 1, 2 and 3 at pages 106 to 108.

Tomiuchi et al. (GB 2357180) is cited to show a cyclodextrin derivation in the context of a color conversion filter fluorescent dye. However, the compound of Tamiuchi is a cyclodextrin derivative, which is different from the multi-branched structure presently required in claim 1. In addition, Tamiuchi does not teach to encapsulate a phosphorescent compound. Instead, Tamiuchi teaches to use a cyclodextrin derivative with a fluorescent dye.

Kawaguchi et al. (US 2004/0051781); Bellmann et al. (US 2003/0068525); and Kitano et al. (US 2004/0109955) are cited as noted above.

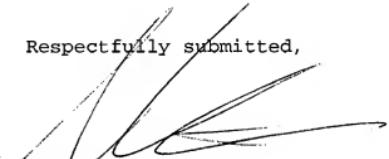
Kawaguchi, Bellmann and Kitano each discloses a compound which is similar to the multi-branched structure compound of the present claim, however, there is no teaching or suggestion of encapsulating a phosphorescent compound in any one of these references. Therefore, the art does not disclose or suggest the multi-branched structure compound encapsulating a light emitting material of a phosphorescent compound as is required in claim 1.

Concerning Kitano et al, the Examiner notes that the polymer may be mixed with a light emitting substance. The present claims require encapsulation. Thus, Kitano et al does not show or suggest the encapsulation of a light emitting substance or provide enablement or motivation to do so. Therefore Kitano does not anticipate any of the claims or render Claims 3, 7 and 14 obvious.

In view of the above, the rejections are avoided. Allowance of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

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